

Categorical Exclusion Documentation
DOI-BLM-LLCON02000-2012-0045-CX

A. Background

BLM Office: _Kremmling

Lease/Serial/Case File #COC-73822

Project Title: Pioneer Productions Film Permit

Location: T. 1 N., R. 76 W., Section 10, 6th P.M.

Description of the Proposed Action:

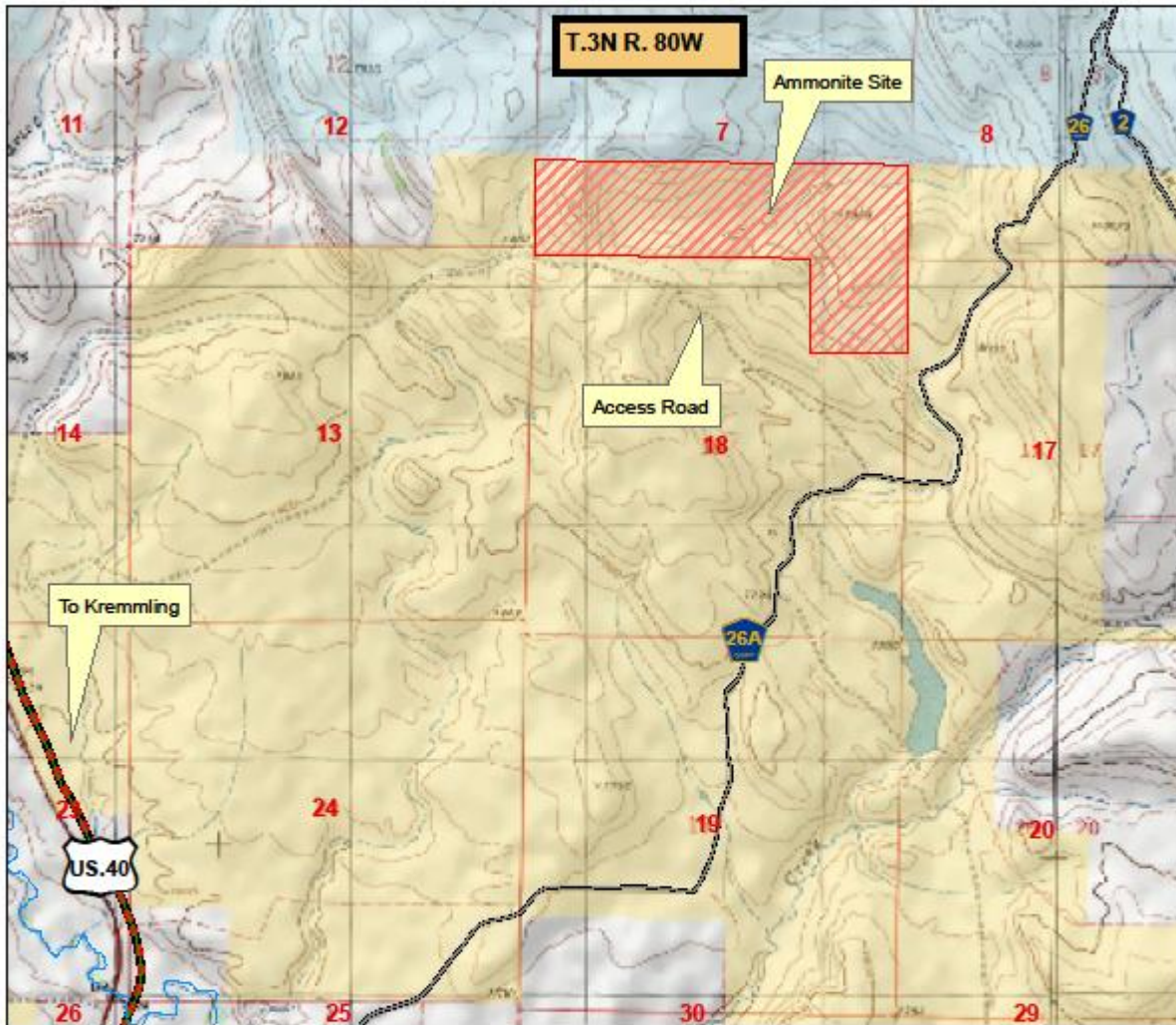
Pioneer Productions proposes to interview geologists for a Discovery channel documentary series called "How the Earth was Made". Specifically, the episode would explore how the Rocky Mountains were created. The Ammonite Research Natural Area would provide evidence of the inland sea that covered North America before the mountains rose. There would be up to three vehicles used as part of the project, no heavier than an SUV. Part of the project includes a float from Pumphouse to Radium in a raft or kayak. The geologist presenter would talk about the history of erosion within the Rockies that created rivers, such as the Colorado River that he is floating on. In a second raft would be the director, cameraman, and sound man. Occasionally the crew may step out onto the river banks at convenient locations in order to film the raft/kayak from a different angle. Equipment will be minimal and portable: main camera, backup camera and sound recording equipment. The date for filming would be August 17, 2012.

Design Features of the Proposed Action:

- No discussion of the location or access to the Ammonite locality would occur in the feature.
- Access to and from the ammonite site would not occur during periods of wet soil conditions where rutting in excess of 2 inches occurs.
- Applicant would be responsible for leaving no trash or waste at the filming locations or along access routes.
- No off-road travel with vehicles would occur.



Filming Permit at Ammonite Site COC-73822



- Legend**
- highways
 - ▨ ACEC
 - Land Status**
 - Land Status**
 - Bureau of Land Mgt
 - Division of Wildlife
 - National Park
 - US Forest Service
 - National Wildlife Refuge
 - Private
 - State
 - State Forest

0 0.1 0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8 Miles



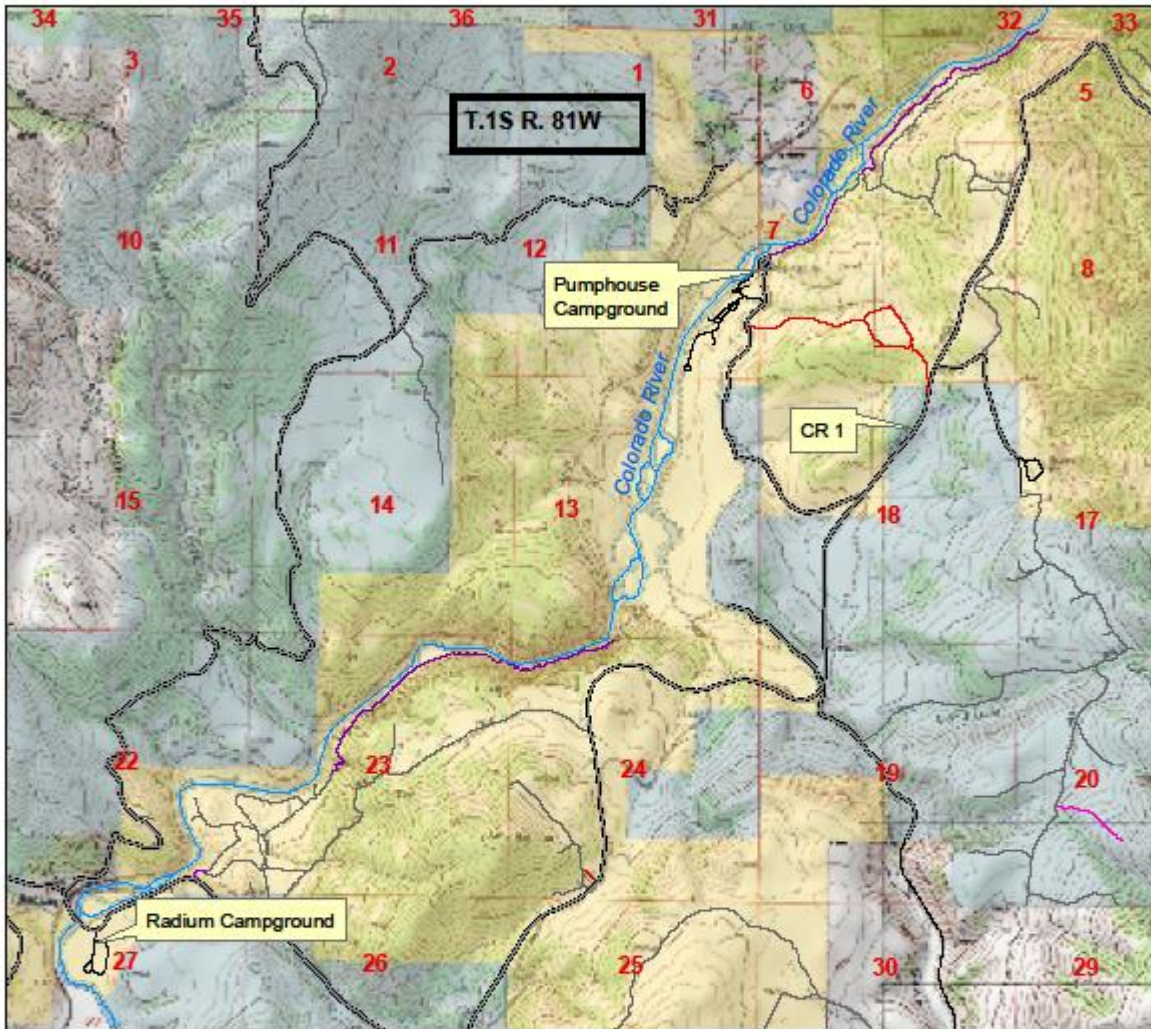
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No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual or aggregate use with other data. Original data were compiled from various sources. This information may not meet National Map Accuracy Standards. This product was developed through digital means and may be updated without notification.

Annie Sperandio, 08-14-2012
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Colorado River Film Permit COC-73822



- Legend**
- SanToy_power_line
 - Land Status**
 - Land Status**
 - Bureau of Land Mgt
 - Division of Wildlife
 - National Park
 - US Forest Service
 - National Wildlife Refuge
 - Private
 - State
 - State Forest

0 0.2 0.4 0.8 Miles



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Annie Sperandio, 8-14-2012
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B. Land Use Plan Conformance

This action conforms to the Kremmling Resource Management Plan (RMP), Record of Decision (ROD)

Date Approved/Amended: December 19, 1984; Updated February 1999

The approval of a land use permit is clearly and consistent with the RMP objectives and decisions as follows: Process and approve small scale, low impact use authorization requests.

C. Compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act

The action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 11.9, E., (9): Renewals and assignments of leases, permits or rights-of-way where no additional rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original authorizations.

This categorical exclusion is appropriate for this action because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The proposed action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 516 DM 2, Appendix 2 apply (see attached).

I have determined there will not be a significant impact to the resource with the incorporation of the design feature.

D. Signature

____/s/ Susan Cassel____
Susan Cassel
Associate Field Manager

____8/14/2012____
Date

E. Contact

For more information, contact:

Annie Sperandio, Realty Specialist
Bureau of Land Management
P O Box 81
Kremmling, CO 80459
970-724-3062

Review of Extraordinary Circumstances

The Department of the Interior Manual 516 2.3A (3) requires review of the following “extraordinary circumstances” (516 DM 2 Appendix 2) to determine if an otherwise categorically excluded action would require additional environmental analysis/documentation.

1) *Have significant impacts on public health or safety.*

☐ Yes ☒ No

Comments:

2) *Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas.*

☐ Yes ☒ No

Comments:

3) *Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)].*

☐ Yes ☒ No

Comments:

4) *Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks.*

☐ Yes ☒ No

Comments:

5) *Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects.*

☐ Yes ☒ No

Comments:

6) *Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects.*

☐ Yes ☒ No

Comments:

7) *Have significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by either the bureau or office.*

☐ Yes ☒ No

Comments:

8) *Have significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat.*

☐ Yes ☒ No

Comments:

9) *Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment.*

☐ Yes ☒ No

Comments:

10) *Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898).*

☐ Yes ☒ No

Comments:

11) *Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007).*

☐ Yes ☒ No

Comments:

12) *Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112).*

☐ Yes ☒ No

Comments:

Reviewers:

_____/s/Bill B. Wyatt_____
Cultural Resources

____8/14/2012_____

_____/s/Megan McGuire_____
Wildlife

____7/26/2012_____

Decision Record for a Categorically Excluded Action

Introduction and Background

Pioneer Productions was issued a Land Use Permit (LUP) on June 25, 2009, which expired July 12, 2009. Pioneer Productions has applied for a renewal of this LUP for filming at the ammonite site and on the Colorado River. No new ground disturbance would occur.

Stipulations

- No discussion of the location or access to the Ammonite locality will occur in the feature.
- Access to and from the Ammonite site will not occur during periods of wet soil conditions where rutting in excess of 2 inches occurs.
- Applicant will be responsible for leaving no trash or waste at the filming locations or along access routes.
- No off-road travel with vehicles will occur.

Decision and Rationale

I have decided to implement the proposed action for the renewal of COC-73822. This action is needed to authorize a land use permit for commercial filming on public lands. In addition, I have reviewed the plan conformance statement and have determined that the proposed action is in conformance with the approved land use plan and that no further environmental analysis is required.

Compliance with Laws, Regulations, Policies and Land Use Plans

The action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 516 DM 11.9, E., (9): Renewals and assignments of leases, permits or rights-of-way where no additional rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original authorizations.

The Proposed Action is in conformance with the Record of Decision for the Kremmling Resource Management Plan approved in 1984 and updated in 1999, and with the land use plan terms and conditions as required by 43 CFR 1610.5-3(a).

Administrative Remedies

Administrative remedies may be available to those who believe they will be adversely affected by this decision. Appeals may be made to the Office of Hearings and Appeals, Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of Interior, Board of Land Appeals (Board) in strict compliance with the regulations in 43 CFR Part 4. Notices of appeal must be filed in this office within 30 days after publication of this decision. If a notice of appeal does not include a statement of reasons, such statement must be filed with this office and the Board within 30 days after the notice of appeal is filed. The notice of appeal and any statement of reasons, written arguments, or briefs must also be served upon the Regional Solicitor, Pacific Southwest Region, U.S. Department of Interior, 2800 Cottage Way, E-1712, Sacramento, CA 95825.

___/s/ Susan Cassel___
Authorized Officer

___8/14/2012___
Date